



FEMA

Disclaimer: The purpose of this briefing is to provide a ***Regional*** weather threat assessment and is meant as a general overview. County/Parish decision makers should consult their local NWS forecast offices for the latest detailed, local weather information. To find your local NWS forecast office, go to www.weather.gov/srh and click on the "Weather Forecast Offices" tab and click on the map for your area.

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

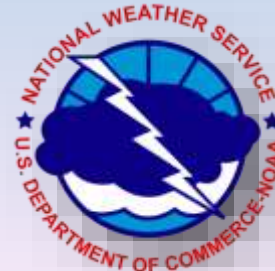
Issued: 0800 CT

Moderate to major flooding continues on the Ouachita River, MS River and Atchafalaya River.

Minor to moderate flooding continues in E TX, LA and AR and rivers will continue to recede.

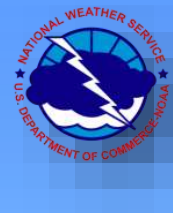
No significant weather is expected today.

National Weather Service
Southern Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Fort Worth, TX



**Prepared by: Felecia Bowser
817-978-1100 x 147**

Key Points



Today through Saturday

- Elevated to Critical Fire Weather conditions may occur across NE NM, TX & OK Panhandles, and the South Plains tomorrow.
- Elevated Fire Weather conditions may develop across E NM, South Plains, TX & OK Panhandle to across the Upper Trans-Pecos Thursday-Saturday.
- Strong thunderstorms are possible across NE TX, N LA, SE OK and AR on Friday.

River Flood Status

- Minor to moderate flooding continues in E TX, LA and AR and rivers will continue to recede through this weekend.
- The Ouachita River is cresting at Felsenthal Lock and Dam in AR. The Ouachita River at Columbia Lock and Dam in LA is not expected to crest until Saturday March 17th at 69 ft. which is 2 ft. above moderate flood state.
- The crest on the MS River is just upriver of Arkansas City, AR. The river at Arkansas City will climb slowly through Tuesday to reach a crest of 43 ft. on Wednesday March 14th.
- The Atchafalaya River continues to rise; the crest at Morgan City is expected to reach 7.5 ft. (moderate flood stage) on March 23rd.

FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Mar 13, 2018 - Mar 17, 2018

DAY / THREAT	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Severe Storms					
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding					
Fire Weather		NE NM/Panhandles/ South Plains	E NM/Panhandles/So uth Plains/Upper Trans-Pecos		
Winter					
River Flooding	E & S AR, N, E & SE LA	E & S AR, N, E & SE LA			
	E TX, LA, AR	E TX, LA, AR			

	No Weather Threats Expected
	Very Common – Happens Often
	Common – Happens Frequently
	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
	Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.



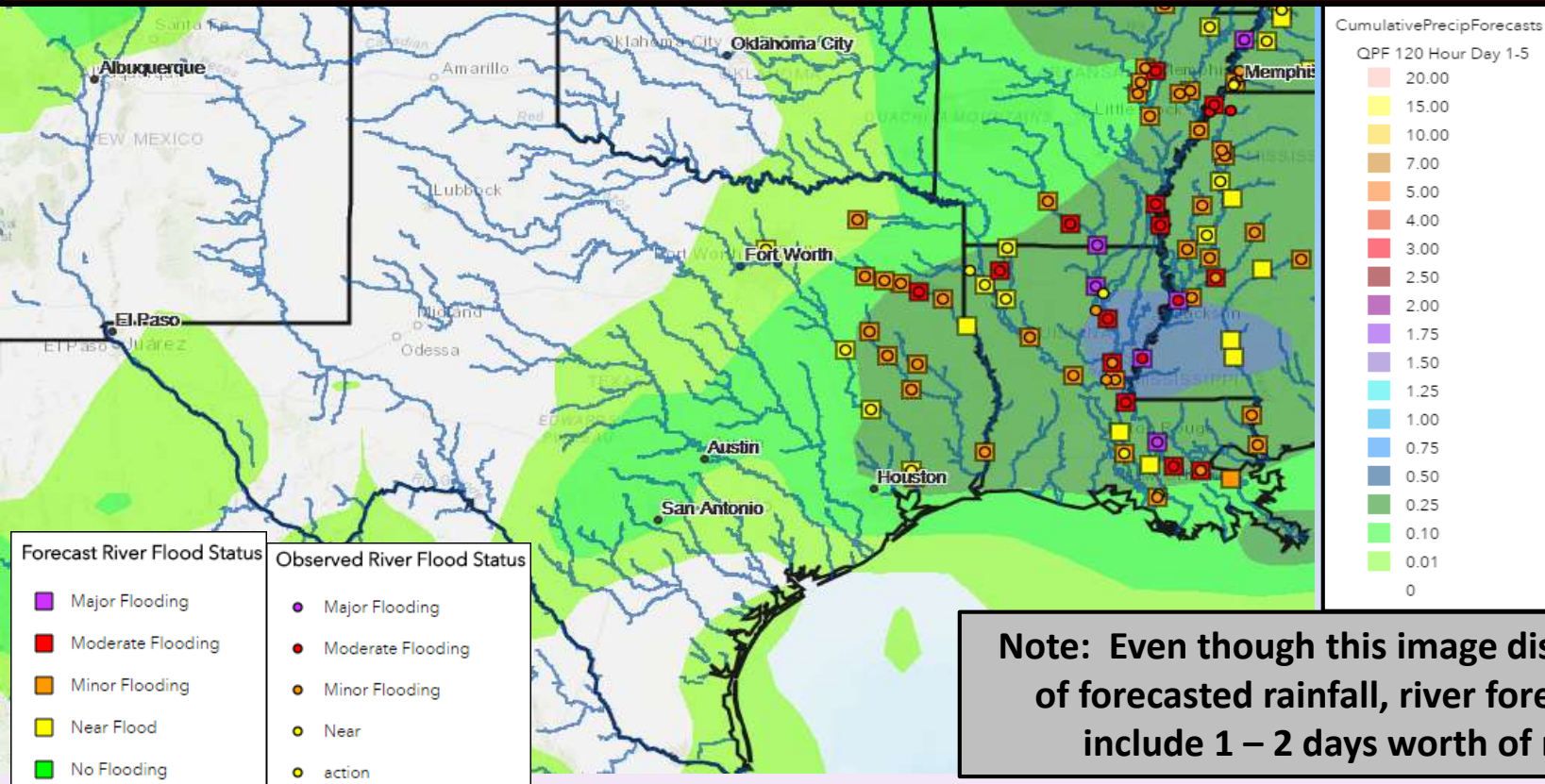
5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status

Minor to moderate flooding continues in E TX, LA and AR and rivers will continue to recede.

The Ouachita River is cresting at Felsenthal L&D in AR. The Ouachita River at Columbia Lock & Dam in LA is not expected to crest until 3/17 at 69 feet.

The crest on the MS River is just upriver of Arkansas City, AR. The river at Arkansas City will climb slowly through Tuesday to reach a crest of 43 feet on Wednesday March 14th.

- The Atchafalaya River continues to rise; the crest at Morgan City is expected to reach 7.5 feet. (moderate flood stage) on March 23rd.



Note: Even though this image displays 5 days of forecasted rainfall, river forecasts only include 1 – 2 days worth of rainfall.

See <http://water.weather.gov/ahps> for the latest on river flooding

Latest Status of Mississippi River

from Lower Mississippi River Forecast Center



Mississippi River Crest Watch

Lower Mississippi River Forecast Center

Crests and LMRFC forecasts produced morning of March 12, 2018

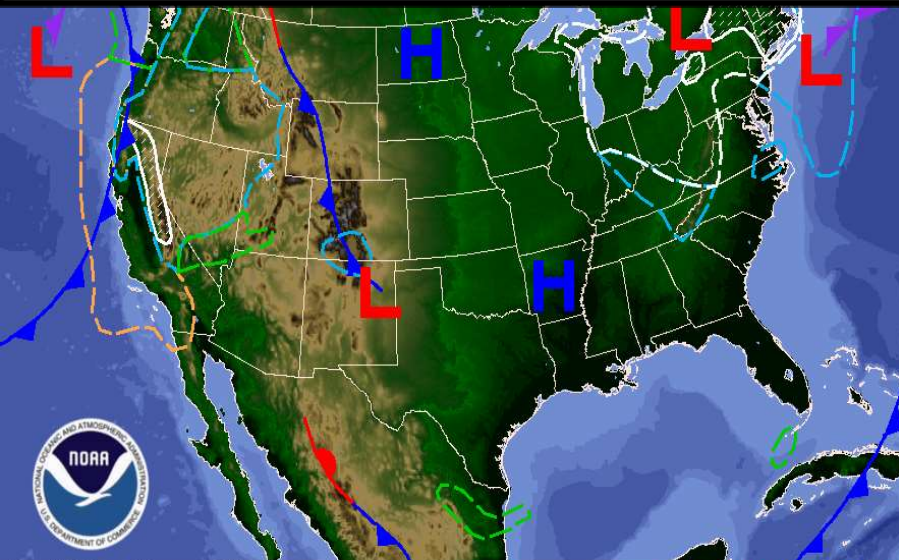
f NWSLMRFC

🐦 @NWSLMRFC



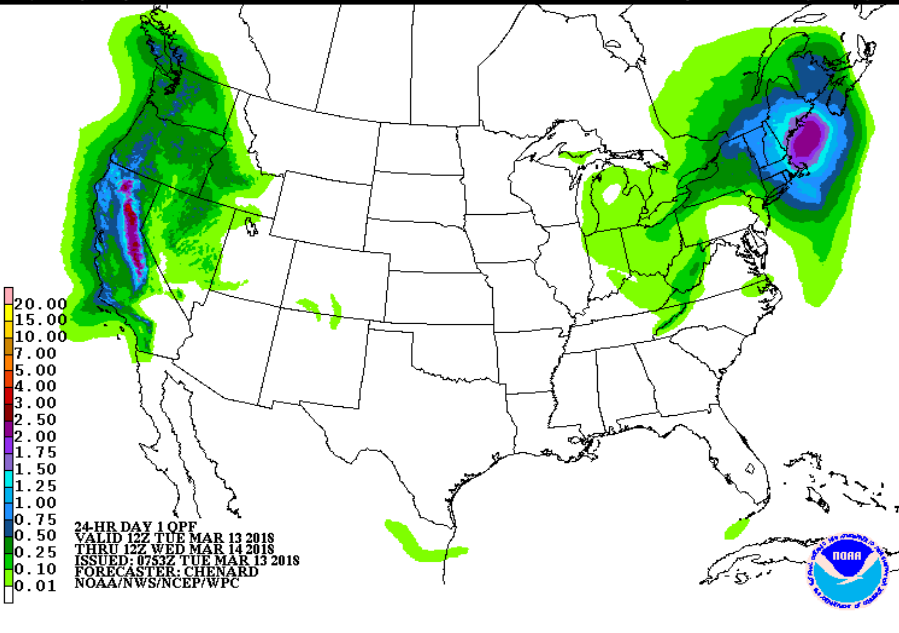
★ Location of Mississippi River Crest Today ● Forecast Assumes operation at Bonnet Carré

Today's Weather



Day 1 National Forecast Chart
Valid Tue, Mar 13, 2018, issued 4:56 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain
Rain and T'Storms
Rain and Snow
Snow
Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)
Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)



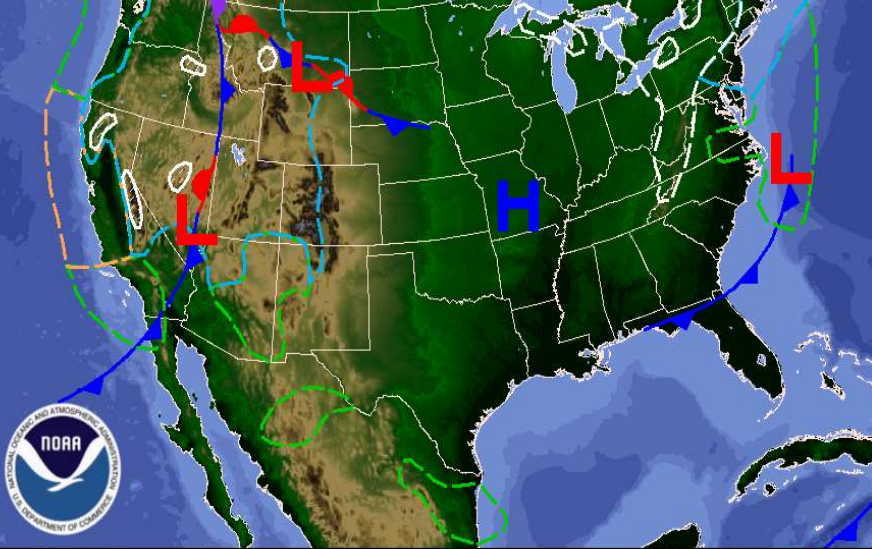
Moderate to major flooding continues on the Ouachita River, MS River and Atchafalaya River.

Minor to moderate flooding will continue in E TX, LA and AR but rivers will continue to slowly recede.

No significant weather expected.



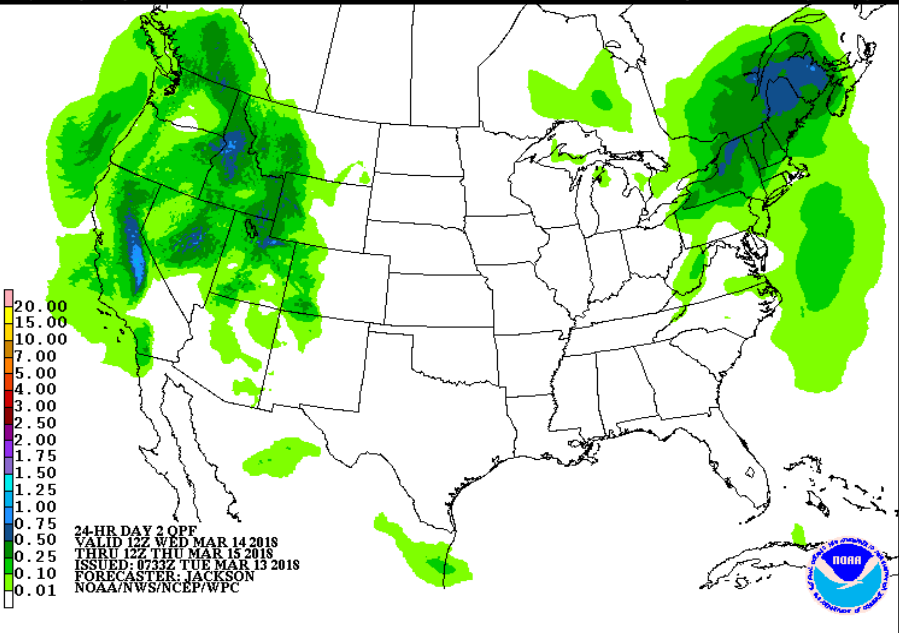
Tomorrow's Weather



Day 2 National Forecast Chart

Valid Wed, Mar 14, 2018, issued 5:00 AM EDT Tue, Mar 13, 2018
 DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
 Prepared by Moreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain
 Rain and T'Storms
 Rain and Snow
 Snow
 Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)
 Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)
 Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)
 Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)



24-HR DAY 2 OPF
 VALID 12Z WED MAR 14 2018
 THRU 12Z THU MAR 15 2018
 ISSUED: 0733Z TUE MAR 13 2018
 FORECASTER: JACKSON
 NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC



Moderate to major flooding continues on the Ouachita River, MS River and Atchafalaya River.

Minor to moderate flooding will continue in E TX, LA and AR but rivers will continue to slowly recede.

Elevated Fire Weather conditions across NE NM, Panhandles and South Plains.

Highlighted Area: FEMA Region 8

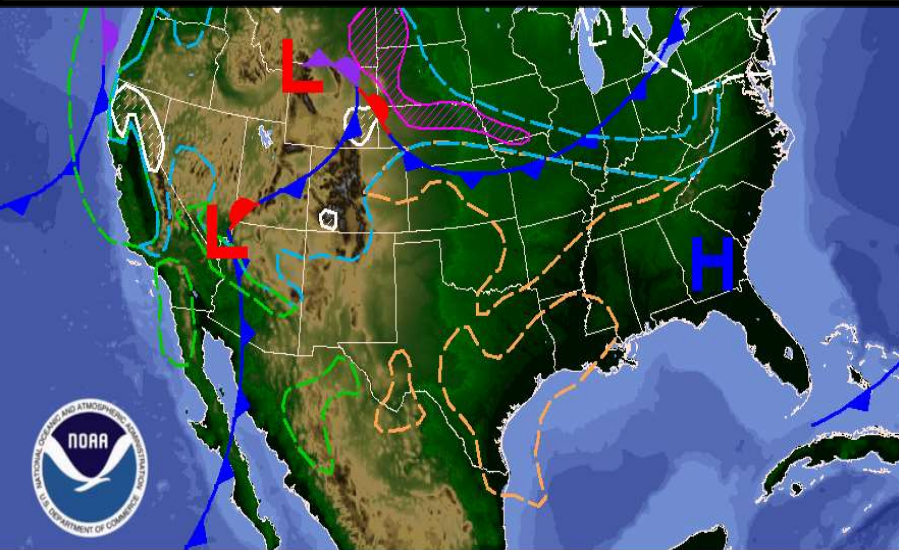
Severe Weather Outlook Wednesday, March 14, 2018

Last Updated: Mar 12 2018 1153 PM CDT
 Valid Over: Mar 15 2018 0700 AM CDT



5 High
 4 Moderate
 3 Enhanced
 2 Slight
 1 Marginal
 Thunder

Thursday's Weather



Moderate to major flooding continues on the Ouachita River, MS River and Atchafalaya River.

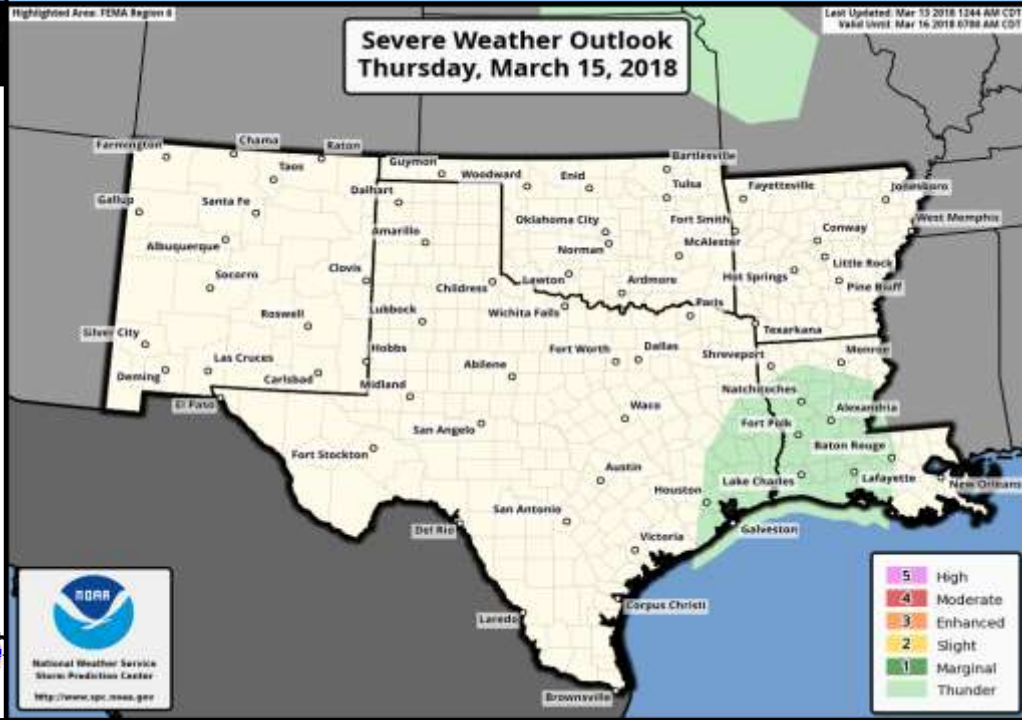
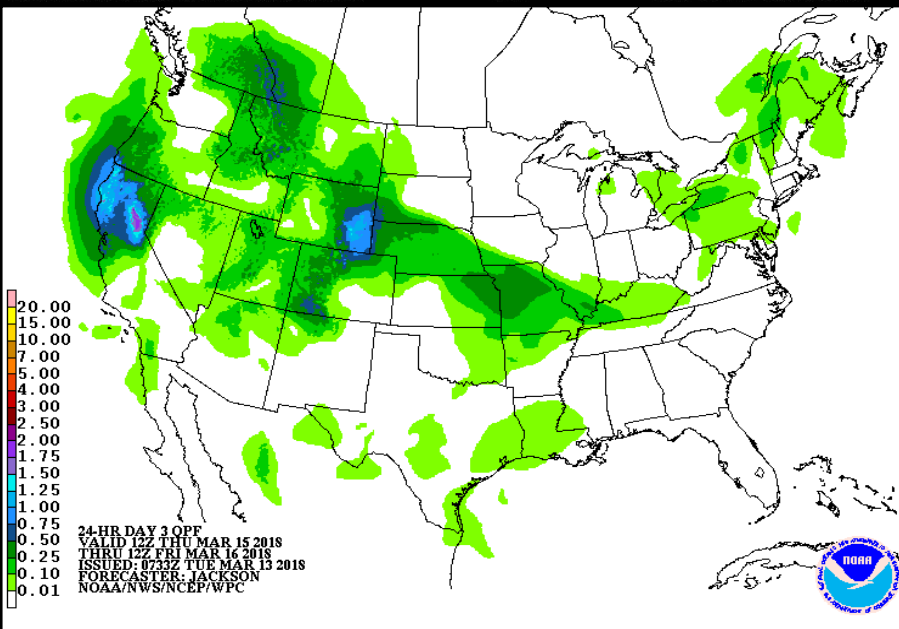
Minor to moderate flooding will continue in E TX, LA and AR but rivers will continue to slowly recede.

Elevated Fire Weather conditions across E NM, Panhandles and South Plains and Upper Trans-Pecos.

Day 3 National Forecast Chart

Valid Thu, Mar 15, 2018, issued 5:03 AM EDT Tue, Mar 13, 2018
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain
Rain and T'Storms
Rain and Snow
Snow
Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)
Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)

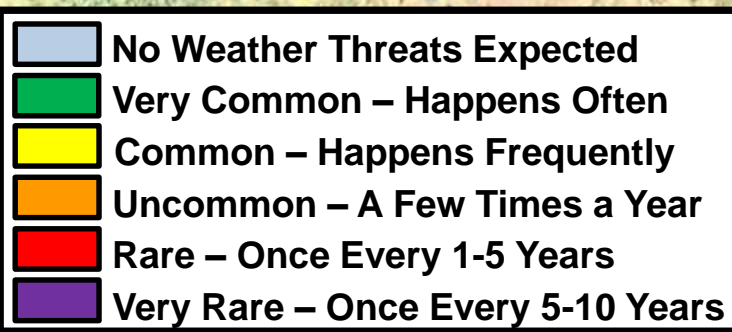


Day 4-5 Weather Hazards

Friday - Saturday



Strong storms possible

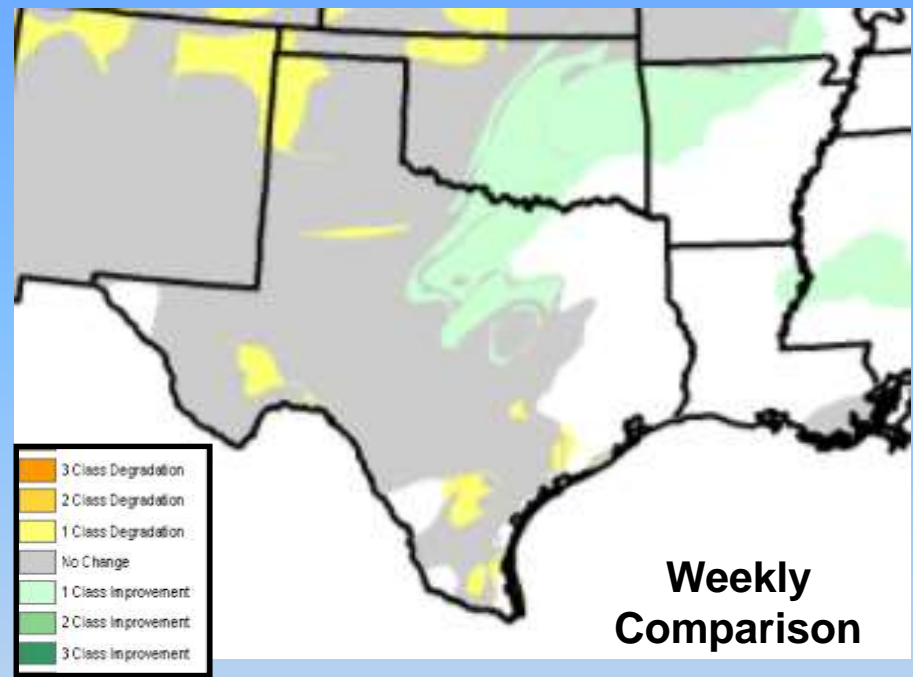
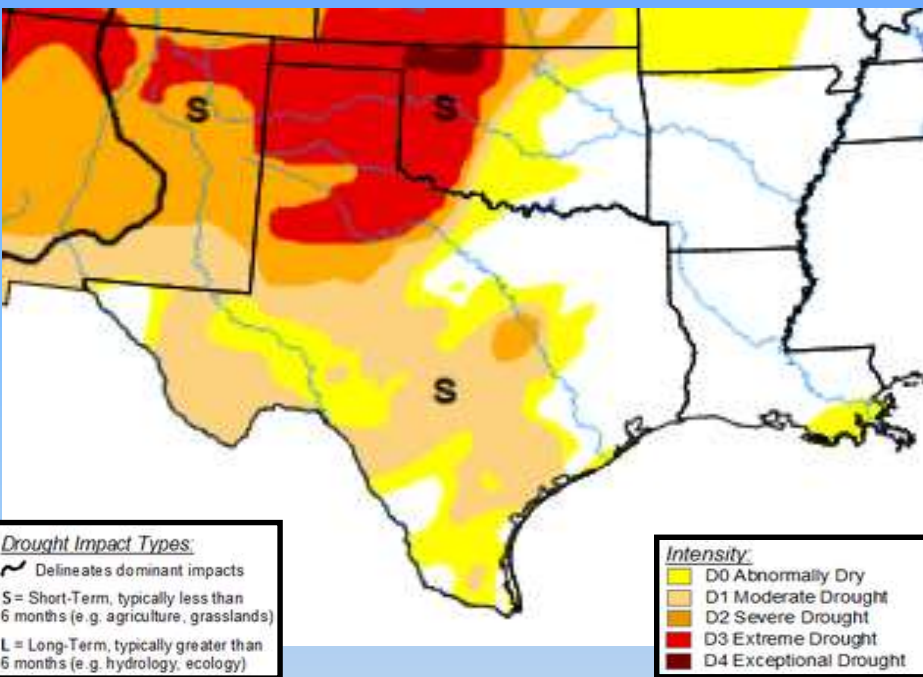


*Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria. State or local threat level criteria may differ.



Drought Monitor Released March 8, 2018

Data valid as of 6am CST, Tuesday, March 6, 2018



Drought Conditions (Percent Area) in D3-D4 (Extreme to Exceptional Drought)				
State	Current	Last Week	3 Months Ago	1 Year Ago
Arkansas	0.00%	0.00%	14.66%	2.00%
Louisiana	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Oklahoma	34.45%	32.91%	0.78%	3.17%
Texas	14.16%	11.47%	0.00%	0.00%
New Mexico	17.08%	5.23%	0.00%	0.00%

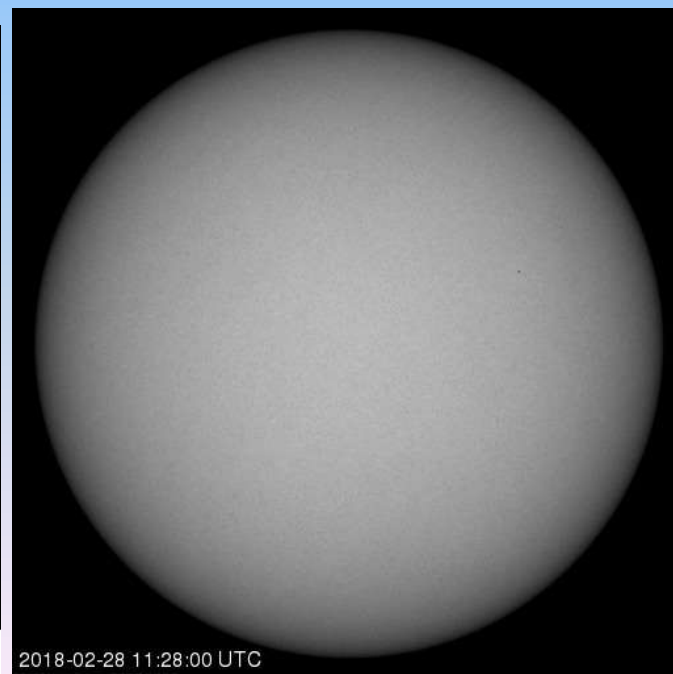
Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



[Click here for a Description of the Space Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Click here for the Latest 3-Day Space Weather Forecast Text](#)

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Geomagnetic Storms	Quiet (Max Kp = 3)	Quiet (Max Kp = 5)	Quiet (Max Kp = 5)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



Normal X-ray Background
Product Valid At : 2018-03-13 10:03 UTC

Normal Proton Background
NOAA/SWPC Boulder, CO USA

Information provided by:



National Weather Service
Southern Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Fort Worth, TX

Phone: (682) 703-3747 ***New Direct Number**
E-mail: sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov
Web: <http://www.weather.gov/srh> (**NEW link!!**)

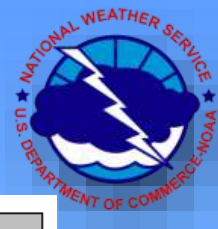
facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/NWSSouthern>

twitter

@NWS_Southern_US https://twitter.com/NWS_Southern_US

The criteria for the color codes in our briefings is below, please provide any feedback to sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov.



Weather "Threat" Matrix			
Color	Definition	Criteria	Example(s)
Green	Very Common Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines	Severe: Marginal Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over localized areas Tropical: None Fire Weather: No Watches/Warnings, fuel moisture above 10% or green up active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX
Yellow	Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life	Severe: Slight Risk from SPC Flooding: Nuisance flooded expected for a widespread area, or Minor flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A weak tropical wave expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire Weather: Red Flag Watches/Warnings and/or SPC outlines enhanced or critical fire outlook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1" hail
Orange	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Enhanced Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations), or Moderate flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A Tropical Storm expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Critical fire outlook for more than 2 consecutive days, Warnings for 2 or more consecutive days, D3-D4 drought conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected
Red	Rare – Once every 1-5 Years Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Moderate Risk from SPC Flooding: Moderate flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Hurricane expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large areas of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue
Purple	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years Safety: Property Damage Unavoidable, Immediate Action to Save Life will be Needed Impact Potential: Typically Results in Long-Lived Widespread Major Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: High Risk from SPC Flooding: Major flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Major Hurricane (Cat3 or greater) expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large area of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Long term (months) of severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms